

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend page 7, line 25 through page 9, line 2 as follows:

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The operation of processor 30 proceeds according to a programmed routine described in the flowchart of Fig. 3. When a call is received from a user terminal (step 41), the processor 30 proceeds to detect all phone numbers contained in the data received from the line interface 20 of the calling user terminal (step 42). At step 43, the phone number of the calling user is checked against phone numbers stored in the ISP phone number memory 31. If ~~there is a match~~, if they mismatch with the stored ISP phone numbers, the processor 30 recognizes that the request cannot be accepted and terminates the routine. Otherwise, the processor advances to next decision step 44 to compare the phone number of the calling user with the phone numbers stored in the user phone number memory 32 to determine whether the calling user is authorized to gain access to the Internet.

If it is determined that the calling user is an authorized subscriber, the processor 30 proceeds from step 44 to step 45 to determine whether desired connections are already established in the switch fabric 10. If not, the processor 30 proceeds to step 46 to send a connection setup request to the call processor 11 to establish connections in the switch fabric 10 between line ports $L_1 \sim L_N$ and trunk ports $T_{P1} \sim T_{PN}$. The number of such connections is determined by the phone numbers contained in the user's connection request. At step 47, the processor 30 communicates through the line interface units 24 to obtain call restriction data and compares the phone number of the calling user with the phone numbers contained in the restriction data. If there is a ~~match~~ mismatch, the processor 30 recognizes that the user is denied access to the Internet. Otherwise, the processor 30 recognizes that the user is allowed to access the Internet and proceeds to step 48 to control the switch fabric 22 to establish a set

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of branch connections between one of the diverging ports of the switching unit 16 and a

number of converging ports determined by the phone numbers of Internet service providers

contained in the received packet.

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Cont.